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BETWEEN

By FANNIE HEASLIP LEA

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The 6:30 express stopped at Raceland, and two solitary passengers alighted. A man, tall, lean and dark, left the third coach; a woman, small, plump, and fair, descended from the second. Midway in their listless course to a somewhat ancient carryull they

"Oh b! I might have known it?" she cried furiouslat The man said nothing at all.

"I suppose," said the woman, with ostentations self control, "you are go ing to the Relations?"

"And have I got to go up in that trap with you?" "You have not, I shall walk," he said calmly

"You will do nothing of the kind," she stormed. "And have them wondering and questioning? You will go up in the trap with me."

He led the way to the aged vehicle and she followed. When they were seated and a series of noisy jerks announced their triumphal progress, he looked at her with quiet amusement. "They will think we have come to strung tight. gether," he said. "Do they know you are coming?"

"No," she snapped. "And I suppose you are surprising them too?" "Quite a surprise party," he agreed. She clinched her little hands furi-

"They will understand that it was an accident that I met you at the depot." They will think you have at last consented to be sensible," he muse't, "and will be delighted. You know how long and ardently they have tried to

throw us together." "Us?" said the woman witheringly. "You have been fairly thrown at my "Well, I never seemed to strike you,"

Sire flung him a scorching glance, and he subsided into silence.

When the white pillars of the Ralstons' splendid old plantation house came into view, she turned on him

"For the next two days-I suppose 1 must stay so long-you will be given any number of chances to talk to me." "I'm not going to propose again," he said disinterestedly. "Don't be so wor

"Don't talk to me." she ordered "Don't come near me unless you have "I never do," he protested, climbing out over the dusty wheel of their char-

Five minutes of the climbed in again after a frenched recalling of the charloteer and seated himself beside a well nigh speechless companion. The carryall joited an unhappy yard or

"You all gwine tek de 7:30 train back?" inquired the ancient driver. "He he he it sho' am too bad. Nobody home, an' you all dun cum all de way up fum New Leans"-

"Whip up that beast of yours, uncle," cut in the man sharply. "There's a train at 7:30, isn't there?"

"Yes, sab." "That's all right then. Now hurry up." He turned to the tense little figure beside him, snapping open his watch.

"It's now ten minutes to 7," he announced, "It won't be long to wait, I dare say."

She surveyed him intently and with out favor. "That train is never on time," she said. He shrugged his shoulders in silence,

and they jolted on till the ugly station came into view. All around the southern twilight was deepening. A star or two winked out

in the purple dusk of the sky, and down the long dusty road the katydids disputed noisily. No one was in sight on the station platform, and only the sudden rattle of

a telegraph instrument from the station itself gave any sign of habitation. "You had better get out and wait on the platform, Mrs. Leonard," said the "Thank you, Mr. Stanley," said the

woman, and followed him stiffly when he had helped her from the carryall. Stanley sat down upon a truck and whistled softly to himself. Mrs. Leonard paced the farthest end of the plat form in superb silence. After a little he joined her with a laugh.

"Apparently," he said, "we're the only human beings in this solitude. see the station agent making off down the road to get a drink before train time. There's a bit of a store a few hundred yards off. I suppose you no-

"I did not," she said frigidly "Interesting things, these plantation stores," he began again. "I have never found them so." She

smoothed an imaginary wrinkle from "Now, see here," said Stanley, "would you mind telling me just why I'm being snubbed and cut and frozen this way? I've said I wasn't going to

propose to you again. What are you afraid of?" "Afraid!" she mocked. "I'm not avoided him, for he was rude and unafraid. I'm tired, that's all, of being | couth, but I thought him an honest, persecuted. Every one thinks I ought | brave fellow. He was no sneak. His to marry you." Her voice began to faults were external. All the rest of tremble. "You think so, too, and the him was right enough! He might have ract that I don't agree with them nor been a thoroughly ball young fellow ou makes no difference at all. You and yet have had plenty of associates. imply go on waiting in that madden. He gave no sign of promise whatso bide your time and I'd give in. Well, the form and was regarded by mas-by should I? I'm happy as I am; I ters and boys as an incorrigible ve my friends and my amusements. | dunce."

Who are you that I should give them up for you?" "Nobody," said the man meekly.

"Nobody at all." "I ean't even go out of town for a day or two," she cried body, "without being forced into a lonesome tete-a-tete with you. I'm tired of having chances made for you to see me, tired of having people get out of the way for us." She broke off with an unwilling little laugh. "Even fate sends the Raistons to town and throws us together here. with no blissful possibility of an inter-

trawled Staniey, 'so we're not quite alone. I think, if you don't mind"he grinual cheritally over the absurdtrain's on time. I saw him come up the road and is through the back door of the station a minute ago. You don't

"Na" she said sweetly, "I don't She sat down on the edge of the platform when he had left her and swung

It was very onely. She always had had a borror of katydids, and the tribe in the trees about her excelled in strength. She began to be faintly sorry that she had let Stapley go. At least she could quarrel with him, and anything was better than this awesome

Suddenly there was a noise from the f and now that its composition is publittle station, a boarse cry, and then the sound of a heavy fall. Mrs. Leonard sprang to her feet, every nerve

"Aleck." she screamed. "Where are you, Aleck?" She fled across the platform and into the little station house. There was no one in the first room and only the marky light of a kerosene

She crossed, trembling with fright, her breath coming in gasps, to the second room and stumbled over a dark body by the door. It groaned and mut-

Mrs. Leonard crept back to the lamp, lifted it from the wall with shaking fingers and carried it to the door. Its light fell dimly upon a man, who, drawing himself erect, leaned against the wall and smiled weakly at her.

said, "but it's all right. There was a tramp-we clinched'-"Oh, don't talk-please don't talk!" she begged tearfully, setting the lamp down on a convenient chair. "Are you

hurt-much?" "And he got away." Stanley finished, his voice growing stronger. "Knocked me silly for a minute. I'll be all right

"Oh, are you sure you're not hurt?" Mrs. Leonard cried brokenly. She laid home with care her hand on his arm and stared up at him with wet eyes.

'You'll make me propose again." Mrs. Leonard wept softly against his coat sleeves. "I wish you would," she

"Now, heaven bless that tramp!" Stanley murmured to himself, with a wicked smile. "It was a heaven sent Inspiration!"

Led a Double Life.

Officer Martin, who had been on the "force" for six months or more, was different in some respects from many of his fellow policemen. He never formance of his regular duty; never swore, never idled away any time, and never shirked.

Because of these differences and because he was uncommunicative and was not in the usual sense of the term a "good fellow" a suspicion that all was not right and that be had something to conceal became aroused, and at last reached the chief of police, who determined to interrogate him.

Accordingly the chief called him into his private office one morning. "Officer Martin," he said, "so the I know, you are one of the beat an on the payroll, but there are that you are not altogether wi seem to be, and that there is a

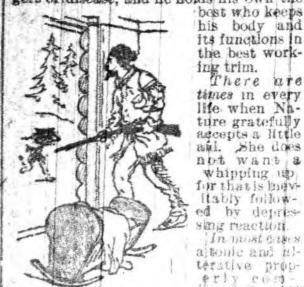
in your life that none of us k "I can't deny it, sir," responded the policeman, somewhat surprised, ibut not at all abashed.

"You confess it then?" "Would you mind telling me what is in confidence?"

"Not at all, sit," said Officer Martin. "I sing in a suburban church choir on Sunday."-Youth's Companion.

Anthony Trollope as a Schoolboy. Sir William Gregory gave a picture of Anthony Trollope at Harrow school that makes it wident why he was so unhappy while there. "He was a big boy," says Sir William, "older than the rest of the form and without exception the most slovenly and dirty boy I ever met. He was not only slovenly in person and in dress, bu his work was equally dirty. His exercises were a mass of blots and smudges. These peculiar ties created a great prejudic; against him, and the poor fellow was generally avoided. It how bitter were his feelings at that time, and how he longed for the friendship and companionship of his comrades, but in vain. I had plenty of opportunities of judging of Anthony, and I am bound to say, though my heart smites me sorely for my unkind-ness, that I did not dislike him, I

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made, in the application of the undersigned
executor of said deceased, notice is hereby
given to the creditors of said deceased to exhibit to the subscriber under oath or affirmation their claims and demands against the estate of said deceased, within nine months from this date, or they will be forever barred from prosecuting or recovering the same against the subscriber.



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